of these dialogues and need to sustain and broaden them was reaffirmed. Regional and international issues were also discussed. Chinese side conveyed that China sees its relations with India in a broader perspective and not only in the perspective of South Asia.

Clinton's remarks on Gujarat

3038. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the former US President Bill Clinton listed Gujarat as one of the world's trouble spots alongwith Rwanda and Palestine during the annual conference of the Labour Party in Blackpool; and

(b) if so, whether any diplomatic steps have been taken to dispel this wrong conception and that, in future, Government would keep in view that such an image is not allowed to be created by Indian Foreign delegations/political personalities visiting abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) In his speech to the U.K. Labour Party Conference in October, 2002 Mr. Bill Clinton suggested, in the context of dealing with the current global challenges, that "we must want the same things for the children of Britain and America" as for the children of Cyprus, Rwanda, Colombia, the Middle East, Kashmir and Gujarat.

(b) Indian Missions and Posts abroad keep the Governments of their accreditation, the local media and other members of civil society fully briefed about the efforts made by Government of India to uphold secularism and protect and promote the fundamental rights of all its citizens.

MoU between India and Russia

3039. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia are set to sign an MoU that envisages joint operations against groups that pose a threat to their security;

(b) if so, the details of the MoU to be signed;